

# SSU Strategic development plan

10-15 year strategic development plan for  
Southampton Solent University East Park  
Terrace Campus



ArchitecturePLB worked with MACE and ARUP consulting to deliver a 10-15 year development plan for the main campus for Southampton Solent University to support their new corporate plan 'Building an Excellent University'.

In anticipation of delivering new facilities at the university's principal city centre site, a development plan was required to identify campus specific requirements and objectives. These would inform the briefs of new key buildings on the campus – and also smaller refurbishments and on-going summer-work building improvements.

This included considering the potential to co-locate off campus facilities, on the main site, plus two feasibility studies for known priority projects.

A key element of our early work was diagnosing the failure of numerous 'failed' plans and visions for the campus over the last 10 years. Lack of prior engagement had led to unrealistic, over complex plans and little collective motivation to move forward.

Our team needed to restore our stakeholders confidence to embrace a fresh new approach. Our initial work developing their vision, was tested through an intensive series of workshops, focus groups and presentations to the University community. This engagement led to a clear sense of the common concerns and the need for a single coherent campus experience, within the heart of the city.



Our focus was to create a vision which was:

- Widely understood
- Developed a clear way-finding strategy
- Developed a sense of place for the University and wider community
- Deliverable and as such did not rely on major projects alone, to move forwards
- With each modest step, improvements were perceived and the next projects were enabled
- Spaces between buildings were developed to become assets to develop a sense of place for the University and wider community.

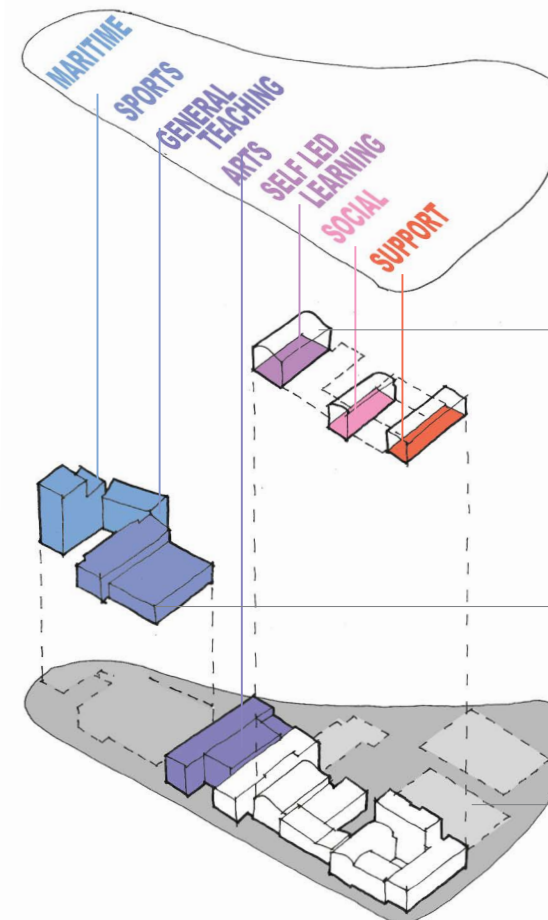
ArchitecturePLB's plan for the university's East Park Terrace Campus brings clarity, legibility and identity to the campus, creating a clearly defined front door to the site. The present amorphous collection of buildings will be redefined and developed around distinct elements of the University with clear purposes and uses, focused around new squares and courtyards.

The proposals include the delivery of a major new high performance sports building in the first phase, alongside a number of refurbishment projects and improvements to the public realm.

A cohesive and sequential programme of improvements to the external realm will not only improve links and routes across the campus and improve the servicing and management of the estate, but also improve the impression and atmosphere of the campus at large.



[Below] Development strategy diagram  
 [Above] New sports building currently under construction



#### Small Projects

1. Refurbish Library
2. Relocate Learning Resource
3. Relocate Student Union
4. Overhaul of Student Hub / Student Support
5. Overhaul refectory

#### Major Projects

1. New Sports Building
2. New Maritime Centre
3. Possible Sports Phase II

#### Future Development

Southeast corner of site:  
 Long term potential for future projects